AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

identifying a power state of a first system, the power state to be one of at least a first and second power states, the second power state to consume less power than the first power state; and

in response to the system being in the second power state, switching, without using a main operating system, a serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) link from the first system to a link with an autonomous subsystem.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the power state comprises of an Advanced Configuration Power Interface Specification (ACPI) state.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein if the ACPI state is S0, S1, or S2 then the SATA is switched to the first system, and if the ACPI state is S3, S4, or S5 then the SATA is switched to the subsystem.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein if the ACPI state is S0, or S1 then the SATA is switched to the first system, and if the ACPI state is S2, S3, S4, or S5 then the SATA is switched to the subsystem.

7. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sets of instructions which, when executed by a machine, t cause the machine to:

identify a power state of a first system. the power state to be at least one of a first

and second power states, the second power state to consume less power than the first power state; and

in response to the system being in the second power state, switch, without use of a main operating system, a serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) link from the first system to a link with an autonomous subsystem.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a memory;

a serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) device connected to the memory and to a switch; and

the switch to

connect the system to the SATA device when the system is in a first power state, and

connect an autonomous subsystem to the SATA device, without using a main operating system, when the system is in a second power state, the second power state to consume less power than the first power state.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the switch connecting the SATA device alternately connects the system and the subsystem to the SATA device.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the switch operation is controlled by signals from the system.

12-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 7, wherein the power state comprises an Advanced Configuration Power Interface Specification (ACPI) state.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein if the ACPI state is S0, S1, or S2 then the SATA is switched to the first system, and if the ACPI state is S3, S4, or S5 then the SATA is switched to the subsystem.

18. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein if the ACPI state is S0, or S1 then the SATA is switched to the first system, and if the ACPI state is S2, S3, S4, or S5 then the SATA is switched to the subsystem.

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) device connected to a switch; and

the switch to

connect the system to the SATA device when the system is in a first power state, and

connect an autonomous subsystem to the SATA device, without using a main operating system, when the system is in a second power state, the second power state to consume less power than the first power state.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the switch connecting the SATA device only connects to either the system or the subsystem.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the switch operation is controlled by signals from the system.